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SCIENCE and INVENTION

SOME USES OF QUICKSILVER

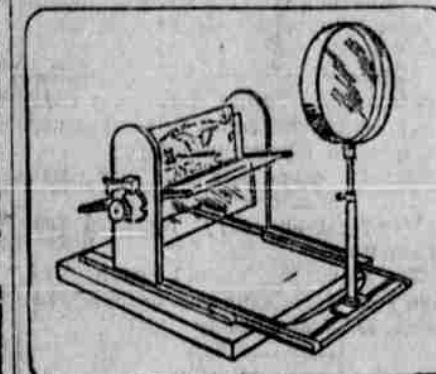
Increasing Demand Has Been Reported in Manufacture of Electrical Appliances in Scotland.

Quicksilver is used mainly in the manufacture of fulminate for explosive caps, of drugs, of electric lighting and scientific apparatus, and in the recovery of the precious metals, especially of gold, by amalgamation. An increasing demand has been reported in manufacture of electric appliances. An interesting and increasing use in Scotland is the floating of the lights of lighthouses upon a body of quicksilver. The metal is not consumed, of course, and the loss in use is insignificant. Concerning this use, the Fleming writes as follows, according to the Geological Survey Bulletin: "The commissioners of northern lighthouses, Edinburgh, have in their charge 90 lighthouses on the coast of Scotland. Up to the year 1900 the revolving lights were borne on rollers. The 'float' system has been gradually introduced, however, and is now in operation at 30 coast stations and will be used at all others. The lighting machinery rests on a pontoon which runs on quicksilver in a groove. The quantity of mercury required for this purpose in a lighthouse is from seven to eight flasks of 75 pounds each. As the waste is trifling, the total present demand for this purpose is small."

BANK NOTE TESTER IS HANDY

Bill Is Held on Glass Stand in Front of Magnifying Glass—Examiner May Look Through It.

It is rather interesting to observe that it was a woman, in California, who designed the bank note tester shown herewith. Two standards support a horizontal shaft which has four



Bank Note Tester.

glass plates extending from it at equal angular intervals. On a slide at the bottom a magnifying glass is adjustably mounted. This glass can be moved up and down, while the slide moves it toward or away from the standards, which support the bank note under examination. The note is laid against one of the plates and can be inclined from the lens at any angle desired, preferably a slight angle with the vertical, which permits of the examiner looking completely through it of there is a strong light on the other side, and counting the threads in the paper, which is one way of testing.

NOTES OF SCIENCE AND INVENTION

For writing and translating messages sent in cipher a slide rule has been invented.

In France a method has been developed for obtaining casein from milk by electrolysis.

An American scientist claims to have discovered a substitute for rubber in a sea fish.

George Eastman has given \$500,000 to the University of Rochester to establish a college for women.

An alarm which emits an ear-piercing shriek should a thief try to start an automobile engine has been invented.

A roughened rubber pad for cleaning the tongue has been attached to the handle of a tooth brush patented by an Englishman.

A pen-knife is a little thing, yet there is more steel used in the manufacture of nibs than in all the sword and gun factories in the world.

After 20 years of experimenting, a Philadelphia scientist has succeeded in hatching eggs of diamond-backed terrapin in an incubator.

A government expert at Washington has succeeded in making a motion-picture film showing the entire process of honey-making by bees.

To lessen the shocks a new detachable tandem seat for motorcycles is equipped with both horizontal and vertical springs and has a back seat.

Five hundred and forty pounds of blood pass through the heart within a single hour.

In dry air sound travels 1,442 feet per second; in water, 4,900 feet; in iron, 17,500 feet.

The X-ray turned on a bale of tobacco destroys the insect and the germ life therein.

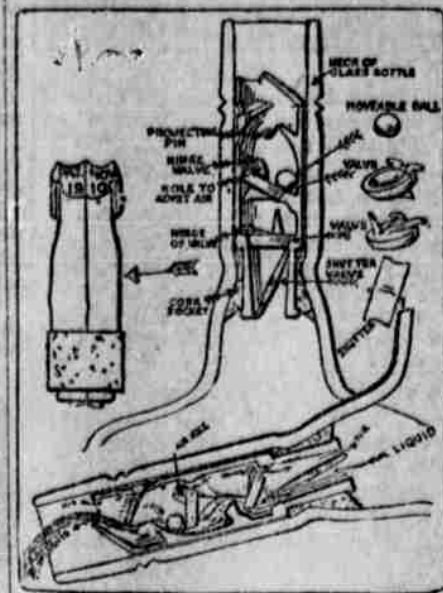
Liquid soap is converted into solid, either in cake or powdered form, by a recently patented centrifugal machine.

BOTTLE IS NON-REFILLABLE

Device Consists of Porcelain Tube With Cork Binding About Its Base—Arrangements for Air.

The latest device for making a bottle impossible to refill is illustrated herewith. It is the invention of Seth E. Gill of Brooklyn, who has received patents for it in every country that grants patents.

Mr. Gill's device consists of a porcelain tube with a cork binding about its base. This is inserted into the neck of the bottle, where the cork



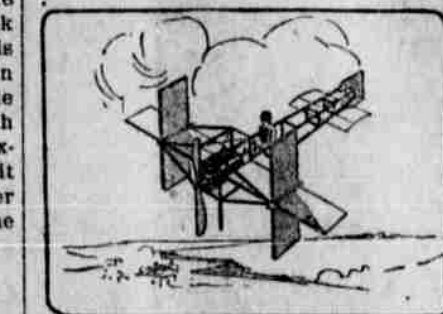
Diagrams of the Gill non-refillable bottle. Above, on right, section of the apparatus with the bottle upright; below, when the liquid is pouring out. Above, on left, view of the apparatus ready to insert in the bottle.

swells with moisture and holds it fast. Once in it cannot be removed without breaking, for its upper part is fragile, says the New York World. It is cast in two halves, each having sockets for the hinges of the two valves. These latter are cast separately. When they and the porcelain ball are put in position and the two halves fitted together they are held firm by the cork socket at the bottom and a ring at the top. When the bottle stands upright the ball and the two valves close every aperture and nothing can be poured in. As soon as the bottle is tilted the pressure of the liquid from below opens the valves and permits the contents to be poured out. An ingenious arrangement on the side opposite to that on which the liquid is being poured admits just enough air to balance the outgoing stream.

WINGS REVOLVE ON AIRSHIP

Multiple-Vane Wings Arranged So That They Can Be Freely Revolved on Their Shafts.

The frame of this new flying machine is very much like that of a monoplane and it has horizontal and vertical rudders at the rear end of the frame and a motor-driven propeller in front. But its two wings are each made up of two or more planes or



Revolving Wings.

vanes intersecting along the line of a shaft parallel with the direction of flight. These multiple-vane wings are arranged so that they can be freely revolved on their shafts.

USES FOR THE SCLEROSCOPE

Its Special Function Is to Determine the Hardness and Elasticity of Various Surfaces.

The scleroscope has been described as a kind of mechanical finger, intended to discriminate, by delicacy of touch, between various substances submitted to it. The ready detection of the degree of hardness and elasticity of various surfaces is its special function. It consists essentially of a little weight, like the hammer of a pile driver, which is allowed to fall inside a tube placed upright on the surface to be tested. The bottom of the hammer, which weighs only a few grams, is finished with a blunted diamond, intended to give it the requisite hardness. After a fall it rebounds, and a carefully graduated scale on the tube, indicating the height of the rebound, shows the degree of hardness of the surface experimented with. On a piece of ordinary steel the hammer rebounds nine-tenths of the height of its fall.

Cellulose to Peat.

Dr. F. R. Bergius, the scientist who has been conducting experiments in producing artificial coal, has, by employing a high temperature and a high pressure, changed cellulose to peat in a few hours. The same change by the process employed by nature, he states, required 7,000,000 years.

Humane Invention. A Pittsburgh scientist has patented a bullet carrying a tiny grain of morphine in one side to relieve the pain of a person or animal that it wounds.

Twin-Cooking Spoon. A twin spoon, each bowl of which is perforated, has been invented for many uses in cooking.

Prolong Life. A statement has been made that life would be prolonged if persons would acquire the habit of stooping by the hips, instead of bending the backbone.

Telescope spectacles have been invented in Germany for persons suffering from extreme nearsight.

WHY AMERICAN ATHLETES ARE WINNERS



Jim Thorpe, Peerless Athlete.

Why do American athletes eclipse all others? The question is raised chiefly in Europe, where so many of our laurels are won. It does not bother us very much over here, for what we are chiefly concerned with is winning. As pragmatists, who believe that the test of the pudding is in the eating, we simply dismiss the matter by concluding that as we win most of the contests we must be the best athletes and accept that as the answer.

But Europeans, especially our English cousins, being better winners than losers, taunt us by saying that, though we win a good deal, we are not all Americans, but merely transplanted Englishmen, Germans, Danes or some other class of Europeans, says the Omaha Bee. Many of us are, and are proud of it. But the fact is, our supremacy in Olympics is not to be thus lightly dismissed. The World's Work cites that of the 24 American Olympic victors in 1908 only one was foreign-born. Then in 1912 came the capping of the climax in the sweepstakes triumph of Jim Thorpe, a full-blooded Sac and Fox Indian, about as pure an American as could be found. Thorpe has since joined the Champion New York Giants.

RING CHAMPIONS UNPOPULAR

Johnny Coulon, Johnny Kilbane and Willie Ritchie Get in Bad for Continued "Stalling."

Never since there were boxers have there been three finer little fellows in the ring than Johnny Coulon, Johnny Kilbane and Willie Ritchie.

The case of Johnny Coulon is a special one, different from the other two. A very sick boy, he refuses either to defend his title or to give it up. Every challenge brings from him a wall that his tum tum hurts him and he is going on a long hunting trip. This has gradually turned a very popular fighter into a very unpopular one. Coulon is disliked because he has practically tied up the entire bantamweight division and blighted the hopes of every boy in it.

It is not easy to say just why Kilbane and Ritchie are unpopular. The cause of the public grudge against these two fine little fellows seems to be that Ritchie and Kilbane are both "in" the boxing world but not "of."



Johnny Coulon.

boxing. They are too obviously there for money to suit the tastes of the sporting fans. In a rather cool and indifferent way, Kilbane makes this plain.

Although it may sound paradoxical, Kilbane is one of the most brilliant boxers that ever lived; and he never should have gone into the ring. It is a life he does not belong in. He isn't in sympathy with boxing and boxers. It is not likely he will be in the ring very long. His passing into business life will end one of the most peculiar careers in boxing annals in the boxing genius who didn't like to box.

Ritchie is the reverse English of a boxing idol because the boxing public resents his luck. Every man who has worked hard all his life and has saved by self-denial, has a secret and savage hatred for every one who has made an easy killing. Ritchie is very likely to live down his unpopularity. He will leave the stage very soon and his manager, Nolan, says he will fight anybody who can show the coin. He is likely to put up a fight that will surprise everybody.

NOTES OF SPORTSDOM

Let's stop referring to Willie Hoppe as the boy wonder.

Charles Rose, the Texas league pitcher, has signed to play with the Highlanders.

Al Shurbert was given the decision over Young O'Leary in a twelve-round bout at New Bedford, Mass.

Jesse Willard now states that he is surely entitled to meet Gunboat Smith before somebody licks him.

Walter Johnson has decided to remain loyal to Washington and endure the heat, despite alluring offers.

Pop Anson says the Feds ought to hire youngsters. Which is no way for Pop to saw out a berth for himself.

Nap Rucker has notified the owners of the Brooklyn club that he will report for duty early in the spring as usual.

"Pining hurts many a player," says Christy Mathewson. "Frequently fans go after a man when there is reason for poor playing."

The Royal Canadian Yacht club is raising an \$8,000 subscription fund for the building of a new yacht racing Union cup defender.

The condition of the horse market does not look like hard times. Good trotters are held at \$10,000, and nothing is a more costly luxury.

Frank Delehanty, it is said, is about to pass out of the association. Mike Flinn is dickering to take him to the Southern league at Memphis.

Lou Fleene led the American association hurlers last season. Fleene joined the Minneapolis club late last summer, and is credited with seven victories and two defeats.

John Foster, Miller Huggins and Hank O'Day are the National league doctors in consultation on the fate of the Cincinnati base hit. It looks as if it would be cut out later on.

Young Shugrue is very anxious to meet Willie Ritchie in a battle for the lightweight championship and will guarantee the Californian \$10,000 for a bout in Madison Square garden.

Joe Mandot of New Orleans and Johnny Griffiths of Akron fought one of the fastest and fiercest eight round bouts ever staged at Windsor, Ont., and the popular verdict was a draw.

Tom McCormick of Australia defeated Johnny Summers, the English pugilist, in a twenty-round contest for the British welterweight championship at Sydney, Australia. McCormick won on points.

And back in the days of once upon a time a gent by the name of Denver Jack Geyer knocked out Gunboat Smith at Taft, Colo., in nine rounds on August 15, 1911. But times have changed.

FEW SURPRISES IN FOOTBALL

Outstanding Figure of Year Was Charles Brickley, Harvard Half-Back, Who Scored Points.

Football was notable in 1913 for the numerous upsets in form. Never before has there been a season when experts had their predictions so rudely shattered.

Results proved that the margin between the minor and major college on the gridiron is becoming narrower all the time, and a forecast might be hazarded that it will not be many years before the sport of the football field will be just as much of an open thing as is the sport of the diamond.

The outstanding figure of the year was Charles E. Brickley, the Harvard halfback, who made all the points for his college in the games against Princeton and Yale. Another prominent figure was Spiegel of Washington and Jefferson, who tallied 127 points for his team by his individual efforts.

The first shock to followers of football came early in the year when Colgate defeated Yale rather easily. Then came Princeton's great fight against the formidable Harvard machine, followed by the Elks playing the Tigers to a standstill. Another result that set the experts by the ears was the downfall of the Dartmouth team, which gave promise of being rated as the best team in the East. The Carlisle Indians, who had none too remarkable a record up to the time of that meeting, accomplished the unexpected.

The last two games of the season though, furnished the most astonishing upsets of all. Cornell's amazing triumph over Pennsylvania for the first time in many years was sensational enough, but when the Army trounced the Navy those who figured themselves competent to judge the prowess of football teams threw up their hands in despair.

The Army-Navy game was a triumph for open football, and it is prob-



Brickley of Harvard.

able that there will be a good deal more of this seen in the next season than was on tap in the past.

Credit is given to Notre Dame University for showing the possibilities of this in the east when the Indiana eleven trounced the Cadets.

Just how the east stands against the west is a moot question. It is certain though, that the balance was all in favor of the teams beyond the Alleghenies. While the best teams of the east were not met by westerners, ones that were fairly representative of eastern football played western teams, and in every case the easterners were vanquished.

There was little question about Harvard being the champion of the east. Chicago won the conference championship, but there were eleven outside that circle which had mighty good reasons to believe they could beat Stagg's team. More interest than ever was shown in football, and at the Harvard-Yale and Army-Navy games record crowds watched the sport.

Coach Favors Numbering Players.

Coach George Broke of the University of Pennsylvania football team is the latest recruit to those who wish to have the football players numbered next fall. The matter will come before the Eastern Intercollegiate Football Rules committee, but it is hard to see what the rule makers can do except to recommend that the coaches do as they like—which was the committee's suggestion for 1913.

Sign Boy Pitcher.

The Boston Red Sox have signed up another schoolboy pitcher. He is Dominick Mulroney, who led a Boston semi-professional team both in batting and pitching.

Fines to Needy.

The National Trotting association and the American Trotting association have agreed that all fines in harness races shall be given to injured and needy drivers.

Back to the Farm.

Two American champions of the mat, Mike Yokel of Salt Lake City, Cleveland, and Otto Syder of Cleveland, O., welterweight, have become ranchmen.

Big Billiard Match.

In a match at 16,000 points, on even terms, which terminated December 27, at Glasgow, Scotland, Thomas Newman of London defeated T. Alken, the Scottish champion, by 617 points.